

I am writing to urge rejection of the NAB's petition 04-160 or any other measure that unfairly hinders the wonderful services made available by satellite radio providers such as XM Radio. I have tried to view this issue from both sides and cannot reconcile the NAB's position. Here are some points I would like to make:

1. National pay tv networks such as CNN, Fox News, The Weather Channel etc. are currently providing local weather and news regularly and have been for some time. To restrict satellite radio, but not satellite television is patently unfair and free of logic.

2. XM's approach to local traffic and weather information is revolutionary in that it is continuous and therefore highly available. This is a valuable service that I am proud to support with my subscription fees.

3. I do not believe that it is the government's role to artificially ensure the success of an industry that refuses to innovate. I believe that America's philosophy of allowing and even encouraging open competition in industry is partly responsible for our success as a nation.

4. While in most areas of life national media tends to suppress regionalism and variety, I believe that XM nurtures it. With its wide variety of programming, XM is providing airtime to artists and genres that do not see the light of day on the current AM\FM machine.

5. While each AM or FM station may be a separate entity in a legal respect, the increasing level of common ownership and operation serves only to maximize profit at the price of regionalism and variety. How can the FCC in good conscience restrict satellite radio when they have so recently relaxed the ownership restrictions?